

THE PICKENS SENTINEL.

DEVOTED TO POLITICS, MORALITY, EDUCATION AND TO THE GENERAL INTEREST OF THE COUNTRY.

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The Pickens Sentinel.

D. F. BRADLEY, Editor and Proprietor.

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THE STATE POLICY.—The question of the organization of the Democracy of South Carolina is working its way slowly along. The force of present habit and the set of the prevailing current entorse, of course, some obstacle to its consideration. Men get used to almost anything, and contract aversion to change and the effort necessary to effect it. They take up with the convenient doctrine that "whatever is, is right," or, at least, if not good and right, that it had better be endured. Besides, this question, so far as it is a question, is not invested at present with any commanding interest from circumstance; which surround it or anything to rouse enthusiasm in its favor. The time has not yet come for that, though we believe it is not far off. As yet it presents itself to most minds as a speculative proposition, requiring cool calculation and balancing of probabilities. As such it has elicited considerable comment from the press of the State. It is generally conceded that organization per se is necessary, and promises good results. Only it is feared in certain quarters that it may not be properly directed. The apprehension which exists on this account we have no doubt will clear away in good time, as the discussion shall widen and extend, and the real grounds upon which a movement should be based are brought more fairly and fully to view.

So far as we have observed, the Sumter Watchman is the most pronounced antagonist reorganizing the Democracy. It regards the idea with disfavor; thinks the advice dangerous, and sees ahead as its result the establishment of the corruptionists in authority. The Winesboro News thinks that the surest card of State policy will be to keep on the present line of compromise. The Sumter Southern urges that there ought to be no battle between Democrats and Republicans as such. There should, in its judgment, be a confederacy of all honest men to put down knaves. This it looks see effected by the Republicans placing staunch Democrats on their tickets with the better class of Republicans. The Greenville News goes heartily for organization. So does the Abbeville Medium. It insists that there should be new leaders appointed, perfect harmony secured, and a platform

adopted which will enlist the sympathy and support of all the honest masses. The Anderson Intelligencer thinks the discussion timely, and knows no better way of engaging the services of all prudent, sensible and discreet men in the State, than to gather them into a permanent Democratic organization. The Pickens SENTINEL is decidedly in favor of the organization of the Democratic party of South Carolina, and asks these journals which oppose it why they do not advise the Democrats to go over to the Radical camp in a body, without edging around it. The SENTINEL says: "If the Democrats desire to redeem the State, they can only do it through organization. If they desire to see Radical rule continued, they only have to pursue the course suggested by these journals to insure it. Let us perfect a thorough Democratic organization, put a straight ticket in the field, ally ourselves with the great national Democratic party, and march with it to victory in 1876. But if the 'possum policy is to be continued, let us cease abusing Radicalism and preaching Democratic doctrine."

And last, but not least, the Union Times give the proposition to reorganize the Democratic party its most cordial endorsement.

We stand as yet only upon the threshold of this subject. There are some reasons of policy, of present supposed advantage, in maintaining a neutral position. There are, on the other hand, overwhelming considerations in favor of a vigorous assertion of genuine Democratic principles, of a combination of all the best elements of the State upon an earnest and hearty effort to restore to it good government, higher morals, sounder education, and better examples of men in the positions, trust and influence which give control of public opinion. We need a general purgation, a complete change. We must try something more efficacious than the tufts and grass of humble conciliation. We must sharply antagonize the elements of evil which hold complete possession of the State, exhausting its vitality and poisoning its blood at the same time.—Columbia Register.

The young men of West Point, Mississippi, have organized a Democratic platform with the following platform: "We pledge ourselves to support for office intelligent white men only, of the highest respectability, of known integrity, and identification with the best interests of our county and State, and who are opposed to what is known as the Radical or Republican party in this State. We will treat with contempt all office-seekers, and we hold it a sacred duty for every man to promptly respond whenever called to the candidacy of any office whatever." To the surprise of many, several leading negroes have joined in the movement, which seems likely to become popular.

The printing office has indeed proved a better college to many a boy, has graduated more useful and conspicuous members of society, has brought more intellect out and turned it into practical, useful channels, awakened more minds, generated more active and elevated thoughts, than many of the literary colleges of the country. A boy who commences in such a school as the printing office will have his talents and ideas brought out; and, if he is a careful observer, experience in his profession will contribute more toward an education than can be obtained in almost any other manner.—Printing Trade's Journal.

The compositor who substituted an "m" for "w" in speaking of a lady troubled with "swelling of the feet," accomplished the worst typographical feat on record.

THE INDIANOLA DISASTER.—The following has been received by the business firms in New York from their correspondents:

"On Wednesday, 15th, the winds were from the eastward, veering to the north. On Thursday morning they became more steady, increasing to a gale. The water was then waist deep, and every man, woman and child was seeking a place of safety. It blew fearfully, and the situation was awful. Screams from the women and children could be heard in every direction. The water was six feet deep on the streets, and about 2 o'clock Friday morning the wind veered to the northwest, and the waves then became chopped. Houses were washed away or tumbled to pieces. The wind toward morning began to lull a little, and the water was getting lower. The wind veered to the north, and then came hope, and daylight began to break. Then did we behold the awful destruction around, and thanked our God that we had been saved, and that our perilous condition was nothing compared with our neighbors and citizens. Along the bay, broad daylight revealed a scene that was terrible to behold. The town could not be recognized as the Indianola of the day previous. Rain—total ruin, was everywhere. The people were seen walking and jumping over one gully and another; neighbors met neighbors and told of the troubles and tribulation of the previous night. Death and destruction were all around us. Houses were crushed to the ground and others were swayed round and leaning over. The wind was dying and the water disappearing from places in the streets. Those that could, rallied to learn the news. Bodies of men, women and children, were found in all directions. The police and guards were organized and the search was made for missing relatives and friends.

"How many have lost their lives in this fearful storm it is impossible to learn. Up to this time sixty or seventy have been found and buried. Women were found and men also, who had floated off on doors, or anything they could get hold of. Some were beneath the roofs and carried away long distances. The escape of so many of our citizens is almost marvelous. The search for bodies is still going on, and the number of human beings drowned will never be known, as there was a large number of visitors in town. We estimate the number of lives lost at 150. H. J. Hucks lost everything but his house. 18 bodies were found yesterday, and the search will be continued until all of the dead are deposited in their last resting place. You cannot imagine the extent of the disaster, and nothing short of its full details will give a proper knowledge of it. A number of persons were out on rafts for hours, but in many cases were not saved. Wm. Taylor, on trial for the Sutton murder, was let out of jail to prevent his being drowned, and made his escape. All the churches in the town are swept away, but the Court House is safe. Capt. Sam. Brown and two of his family were saved; they took refuge in the lighthouse and were thereby saved. Brown is now the only surviving pilot at the Pass. Great destitution prevails, and the Victoria people hearing of it nobly sent us assistance at once."

Indianola is one of the few towns of Texas that can boast of its antiquity. There, long before it was ceded to the United States, a large trade in hides, and although in the latter part of the last century and in this century it has been partially or wholly submerged by the tidal flow, so near to the gulf cities and towns, plain-like, it has always recuperated from the effects of tide and war and wind, and remained the key of the inland waterway that extends

from Cony river, in Brazoria county, Texas, to the Rio Grande del Norte, that divides Texas from Mexico. Indianola is the chief port of entry of the district Salina, and before the railroads tapped the towns that fed it, it was a place of considerable importance, commercially and topographically.

It is situated on a peninsula, where the Lavaca river empties into Matagorda bay, the county of Calhoun, of which it is the county seat, forming the peninsula. Owing to its low situation, it is subject to inundation alike from the immense body of water that overflows Matagorda bay and the tidal waves from the gulf that occasionally sweep over the narrow beach that separates it from the gulf.

Indianola is 140 miles southeast by east of Austin and 120 miles southwest of Galveston. In 1870 it had a population of 2,100, which has increased to nearly 3,600. Of these nearly five hundred are colored. It is the terminus of the Gulf, Western Texas and Pacific Railroad, (completed in 1873 to Cuero, in DeWitt county, a distance of sixty six miles), which is to connect it with Austin. Steamers run regularly to Corpus Christi and Galveston.

THE GREAT ECLIPSE OF 1875.—The Rochester Express contains the following from Louis Swift:

On the 29th of the present month will occur one of the most remarkable eclipses of the sun that has taken place in this State since the memorable total eclipse of June 17, 1806. Totality lasted about five minutes or nearly as long as is possible in our latitude. It was the first total eclipse ever submitted to accurate instrumental observations in this country. It will make its fourth return since then in July, 1878, and will be total in Colorado and Texas. There are three kinds of solar eclipses and two of lunar—the former being partial, annular and total; the latter partial and total. The coming eclipse will be annular and total (ring like), caused by the moon being too small to cover the entire sun, hence a narrow bright ring will surround the black moon, presenting a sight as beautiful as its occurrence is rare. The eclipse (not the annular phase) first touches the earth at sunrise in the Atlantic Ocean, Northeast of the Bermuda Islands, and leaves it at sunset, in the Southern part of Africa. The annular phase, not visible here, first touches the earth at sunrise on the shore of Lake Ontario, about three miles Northeast of that narrow neck of land separating Soda Bay from the lake, following the track of the partial phase, and leaves the earth at sunset, on the Island of Madagascar. If a line be drawn on a map, commencing about five miles North of Watertown, through Ticonderoga, to a point five miles South of Portland, Maine, it will nearly represent the Northern limit of the annular phase. If parallel to this another line be drawn, commencing five miles North of Ithaca, running about ten miles South of Cortland, five North of Hudson, to Duxbury, on Cape Cod, it will nearly represent the Southern limit of annular phase. The distance between these two lines represents a terrestrial belt about 110 miles in width. Through the centre of this belt the eclipse will not only be annular, but will also be exactly central, the ring concentric with the sun's centre, and, of course, of equal width all around. On each side of the central line the ring will be eccentric, and, of course, unequal in width, the eccentricity increasing until each boundary is passed, when the eclipse ceases to be annular and assumes the appearance of a long, slender crescent. I observed this same eclipse with much youthful curiosity at its appearance in 1839, though it was neither annular nor

total, though nearly so. The beautiful thoughts connected with it cling to me yet, and awaken a desire to observe it again, which I intend to do near Syracuse, where the magnitude of the eclipse will be the largest—equal to 114 digits. In Rochester the sun will be 11-12 covered at sunrise, but will not be exactly annular. Every object will have, or rather would have, if the sun were higher, a yellow, sickly, deathly appearance, which can only be appreciated when seen. In 1839 this eclipse will occur again, and every eighteen years and about ten days thereafter, every time passing over the earth some sixty miles farther South, and will finally pass off the earth at the South Pole, after having appeared seventy seven times from its first appearance at the North Pole, occupying 1,353 years. After this it will not touch the earth, but will take place in space till after the lapse of 12,492 years, when it will touch the earth again at the North Pole as before, to repeat the same cycle over and over again forever. The above are a few of the salient features, briefly told and hastily written, of this wonderful eclipse, remarkable of a large at every one of its appearances. I doubt if, since the creation of man, the annular phase of an eclipse has first touched the earth so near Rochester as this, and probably will not again in many ages.

Gen. W. K. Kimball, of Maine, who shot himself last week, left a letter addressed to the coroner, in which he said there was no need for an inquest, and continued: "I am sorrow-stricken, heart-broken, and have volunteered to 'cross over the river' and join the great army, gone to the front, instead of waiting to be drafted by the 'grim messenger.' God forgive me for the sin if it be a sin."

A Chicago woman advertises in the Marriage Bazaar: "I want an honorable, honest gentleman for a husband. No lawyer, doctor, or politician may apply. I will give my future husband on my marriage day \$10,000 cash, and twice that amount in real estate. I am 22 years of age, 5 feet 4 inches high, weigh 149 pounds, a good musician, and well educated. Editor has address."

A Wyoming jury, composed of seven men and five women, were shut up for two days and two nights and yet they couldn't agree. It is said that if they had remained out for seventeen years there would have been no verdict, as the five women talked the seven men dead the first six hours.—Brooklyn Argus.

To prevent pip in chickens, feed them with raw, fine cut onions once in three or four days, and color their drinking water with tincture of iron occasionally. Bread soaked in vinegar is healthy. Get all the egg shells you can for your fowls, keep the hen house clean, and give plenty of range.

Noting the present of a silver cup to a brother journalist, a Western editor says: "He needs no cup. He can drink from any vessel that contains liquor, whether the neck of a bottle, the mouth of a pickle jar, the spile of a keg, or a bang of a barrel."

"I lived with him nineteen years," says an Indiana applicant for a divorce, "and all the clothes he ever bought me was a bunch of hair pins and a tooth brush." You can see by this what a hard time she had to keep well dressed.

A minister once said: "Those nice young men who stand outside the church doors waiting for the young ladies to come out, will some day stand around the inside of hell's door waiting for the girls to come in—but they won't come!"

Husband—"What's the use of going out this chilly weather?" Wife—"What's the use of having clean stockings?"

THE COMING CENTENNIAL.—The great buildings which are to shelter samples of the world's industries are fast taking shape in Fairmont park. The frame of the main building is in position. The glass is being put in and the floor laid. A clever scheme for giving a clue to the location of each exhibitor has been adopted. The iron columns which support the roof of the great structure are to be numbered lengthwise and lettered crosswise, so that every exhibitor will be in the neighborhood of A2, or D5, or some similar combination of letter and figure. The art hall is finished, with the exception of the iron dome, and that is now being put in place. The machinery hall is practically finished. The memorial hall is nearly so. The four main buildings, it is evident, will be ready in plenty of time—too soon, in fact, for the very dilatory exhibitors, but not for their foreign rivals, who are already beginning to gather at Philadelphia. The whole of the main building has been allotted to different nationalities, though the space has not yet been subdivided among individuals, especially in the fourth reserved for this country. Great Britain, France and Germany occupy the other three fourths, or rather the part of each nearest the centre. This secures a group composed of the four great nations of christianity. Canada, Australia, Scandinavia and a few individual exhibitors of Russia occupy the rest of the British quarter. Switzerland, Belgium and the South American states are placed with France. Germany shares her fourth with Austria, Holland, Spain, Portugal and Asia. The only nations which have declined the invitation to participate in the show are Russia, Greece and Italy, but subjects of all three have applied for space. The most complete exhibition will probably be that of German products. The new Teutonic empire will show its best side.

There will be a number of supplementary buildings among them those of several states. Kansas will make a bid for emigrants by displaying the choicest of her products in a handsome structure apart from main hall. These outlying buildings, however, cannot be expected to rival those of Vienna in 1873. The grounds of Weltanstelling contained, among others, a Japanese farm house, a Turkish coffee house, where bearded boys and pashas sat cross legged and slipperless, smoking the most fragrant of tobacco and sipping the most delicious of coffee, and a sumptuous house built for the viceroy of Egypt. The latter was the most beautiful single structure on the grounds.

It is certain that visitors will see an admirable display of foreign wares though it may well be doubted whether this is precisely the best way to celebrate our own centennial. We are showing a masterly inactivity in the matter, and our own department bids fair to be a melancholy failure. The responsibility for this state of things rests largely on the centennial commission, which has not taken the necessary measures to awaken public enthusiasm. Its president, Gen. and J. R. Hawley, should have begun a year ago to make speeches, in his own eloquent way, throughout the country, visiting all the more important cities and organizing subsidiary committees in each. Something can still be done in this direction, and unless something is done, the value of Gen. Hawley's services to the centennial will not be apparent.—Exchange.

There are some confiding people left in Troy. An apple woman in that city will trust an alderman over Sunday for fifty cents' worth of fruit, but it may be added that she's around mighty early Monday morning.